Serial No. 10/660,289 Confirm. No.: 5354 Art Unit: 2109 Examiner: Saeed S. Mirzadegan IBM Docket: AUS920030563US1(4013)

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Original) A method for enhancing persistence of a message, the method comprising: browsing an inbound queue to identify the message;
 - copying the message to a working queue, the working queue being persisted by a queue manager, to persist the message before the message is removed from the inbound queue; and
 - processing the message to generate a reply prior to removing the message from the working queue.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising removing the message from the working queue after storing the reply in an outbound queue.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising restoring the message in the working queue after a system failure.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining that the message is persisted prior to removing the message from the inbound queue.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein browsing comprises searching the working queue for the message, wherein the message is waiting to be processed.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein browsing comprises locking the message until the message is copied to the working queue.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises assigning the message to a thread, the thread being available to process the message.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises transmitting a second message to request data indicated by a content of the message and generating the reply based upon data received in response to the second message.

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- 9. (Original) An apparatus for enhancing persistence of a message, the apparatus comprising:
 - an inbound queue to receive the message from a requestor;
 - a working queue to store the message;
 - a queue manager to persist the message from the working queue before the message is removed from the inbound queue; and
 - a dispatcher to browse the inbound queue to identify the message, copy the message to the working queue, remove the message from the inbound queue after the message is persisted from the working queue, and assign a thread to process the message, generating a reply in response to the message.
- 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising an outbound queue to store the reply until the reply is transmitted to the requestor.
- 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the queue manager is configured to persist the message from the inbound queue and the reply from the outbound queue.
- 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the dispatcher comprises a persistence determiner coupled with the queue manager to determine that the message is persisted prior to removing the message from the inbound queue.
- 13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the dispatcher comprises a queue searcher to identify the message to be processed.
- 14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the dispatcher comprises a message locker to lock the message, until the message is copied into the working queue.
- 15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the dispatcher comprises recovery logic to assign the thread to process the message after a system failure.
- 16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the thread is configured to process the message based upon a rule associated with the message.

17. (Currently Amended) A <u>storage-type</u> machine-accessible medium containing instructions, which when executed by a machine, cause said machine to perform operations, comprising:

browsing an inbound queue to identify a message;

copying the message to a working queue, the working queue being persisted by a queue manager, to persist the message before the message is removed from the inbound queue; and

processing the message to generate a reply prior to removing the message from the working queue.

- 18. (Currently Amended) The storage-type machine-accessible medium of claim 17, wherein the operations further comprise removing the message from the working queue after storing the reply in an outbound queue.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The <u>storage-type</u> machine-accessible medium of claim 17, wherein the operations further comprise restoring the message in the working queue after a system failure.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The <u>storage-type</u> machine-accessible medium of claim 17, wherein browsing comprises selecting a set of messages, the message being part of the set.